

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 CU-02

/095 W

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R 051747Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 253

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

CONFIDENTIAL RABAT 6026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OTRA MO

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1 VISIT TO WARSAW BY MOROCCAN

FOREIGN MINISTER

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

REF: RABAT 5855 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI'S VISIT TO POLAND OCT29-NOV 1 FOCUSED ON PHOSPHATES AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND FURTHER ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS ARE PLANNED. POLAND'S RECEIVING LARAKI WAS FOR MOROCCANS A WELCOME GESTURE FROM EASTERN EUROPE. LARAKI ALSO STRESSED SAHARA ISSUE, AND MET WITH POLISH DISCRETION. HIGH-LEVEL MOROCCAN VISIT TO MOSCOW NOT RPT NOT CONTEMPLATED AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY.

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2. FONMIN LARAKI PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO POLAND OCT 29-NOV 1,

DURING WHICH HE MET WITH PARTY FIRST SECRETARY GIEREK AND PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF STATE JABLONSKI AND HELD WORKING SESSIONS WITH FONMIN OLSZOWSKI. LARAKI DELEGATION WAS HEAVILY WEIGHTED ON ECONOMIC SIDE, INCLUDING MINISTER OF COMMERCE GHASSASSI AND PHOSPHATE OFFICE DIRECTOR KARIM LAMRANI. JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED NOV 1 (FIBS LONDON R 022337Z NOV) WAS UNSURPRISING EXPOSITION OF POSITIONS ON WORLD POLITICAL ISSUES WITH TWO PARAS ON BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THE TWO SIDES EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR DETENTE, UN CHARTER, INDEPENDENCE, NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY (WHICH MOROCCANS WILL INTERPRET AS APPLYING TO SAHARA ISSUE), AND DISARMAMENT, AND CONDEMNED RACISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. THEY ALSO CALLED FOR CONVENING MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA WITH PLO PARTICIPATION.

3. ON ECONOMIC ISSUES, PARTIES REGISTERED SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS OF ONGOING BILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, ESPECIALLY IN FIELD OF COMMERCIAL TRADE. DESIRE TO DEEPEN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION EXEMPLIFIED BY SIGNING OF LONG-TERM AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES. COMMUNIQUE ALSO EXPRESSED NEED TO FIND SOLUTION TO WORLD ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, ESTABLISH JUST PRINCIPLES IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, ELIMINATE ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION AND CREATE A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER BASED ON THE RECOGNITION OF SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF ALL STATES, ESPECIALLY DEVELOPING NATIONS, TO DISPOSE FREELY OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES AND TO SELECT STRATEGIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

4. ON CULTURAL LEVEL, THE PARTIES AGREED TO FURTHER COOPERATION IN EDUCATION AND TELEVISION AND RADIO PROGRAMMING.

5. MFA DIRECTOR OF EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS BELKORA, WHO WAS MEMBER OF DELEGATION, COMMENTED ON NOV 5 THAT GOM WAS PLEASED AT RESULTS OF POLISH VISIT. LARAKI WAS ALSO TO HAVE VISITED CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HE NOTED, BUT CZECHS HAD TAKEN INITIATIVE TO POSTPONE FOR "NO REAL REASON", ALTHOUGH THEY HAD CITED ELECTIONS. MOROCCANS HAD THEREFORE BEEN CONCERNED BEFORE WARSAW VISIT THAT POLES MIGHT ALSO POSTPONE. FACT THEY HAD GONE THROUGH WITH VISIT WAS WELCOME SIGN TO GOM THAT EASTERN EUROPEANS HAD NOT TAKEN DECISION TO COLD-SHOULDER MOROCCO.

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6. MAIN FOCUS OF VISIT, BELKORA CONTINUED, HAD BEEN PHOSPHATES AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS (COMMUNIQUE MADE NO MENTION OF FORMER TOPIC). MOROCCO EXPECTED TO SELL POLAND \$80 MILLION WORTH OF PHOSPHATES DURING COMING YEAR. POLES, WHO HAD SERIOUS EXCHANGE PROBLEMS, HAD PRESSED TO EXPORT MORE, AND MOROCCANS WERE WILLING TO STEP UP PURCHASES. POLISH DELEGATION WAS EXPECTED IN RABAT IN LATE NOVEMBER TO WORK OUT DETAILS.

7. SAHARA HAD ALSO BEEN MAJOR ISSUE FOR MOROCCANS, BELKORA ADDED. LARAKI HAD REVIEWED MOROCCAN POSITION AT LENGTH, REFERRING TO LAST YEAR'S POLISH SHIFT TO MORE PRO-ALGERIAN STANCE IN UNGA AFTER RELATIVE NEUTRALITY IN 4TH COMMITTEE. POLES HAD RESPONDED VERY DISCREETLY, STRESSING THEIR HOPE FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN SAHARA WHICH INCLUDED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT DESIRES OF SAHARA POPULATION. GOM WAS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT EASTERN EUROPEAN ATTITUDE ON SAHARA AT UN THIS YEAR, BELKORA COMMENTED, IN LIGHT OF GOM EXPECTATION THAT ISSUE WOULD BE REFERRED TO OAU SPECIAL SUMMIT.

8. CONCERNING AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED IN WARSAW, BELKORA INDICATED THAT THEY SIMPLY CODIFIED EXISTING RELATIONS IN GIVEN FIELDS. CULTURAL AGREEMENT, FOR EXAMPLE, HAD BEEN INITIALED IN 1965 AND, ALTHOUGH IT HAD NOT BEEN FORMALLY CONCLUDED UNTIL NOW, CULTURAL EXCHANGES HAD PROCEEDED AT A BRISK PACE. BELKORA NOTED THERE HAD BEEN WIDE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS DURING NEGOTIATION OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE, BUT GOM WAS SATISFIED WITH FINAL MEUTRAL LANGUAGE ACCOMMODATING BOTH SIDES.

9. ASKED ABOUT OUTSTANDING SOVIET INVITATION FOR PRIMIN OSMAN TO VISIT MOSCOW (RABAT 1011), BELKORA SAID THERE WERE NO CURRENT PLANS FOR A VISIT. THE MAIN REASON TO GO AHEAD WITH MOSCOW TRIP WOULD BE TO NEGOTIATE ON MESKALA PHOSPHATES PROJECT, WHICH HAD FALLEN THROUGH LAST YEAR INTER ALIA BECAUSE OF MOSCOW'S PRO-ALGERIAN POSITION ON SAHARA ISSUE. MESKALA CONTINUED TO BE RAISED FROM TIME TO TIME BY SOVIETS ON LOW TECHNICAL LEVEL, BUT THERE WAS NO SIGN OF PROGRESS, BELKORA CONCLUDED.

10. COMMENT: LARAKI VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN AT LEAST A MODEST SUCCESS FOR MOROCCANS, WHO OBVIOUSLY SEE NEED TO PURSUE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE, BOTH FOR ECONOMIC
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BENEFITS AND HOPE FOR RELATIVE NEUTRALITY ON SAHARA ISSUE. IN ADDITION TO PHOSPHATES AND CHEMICAL PLANT CONSTRUCTIONS, BILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO EXTEND TO OTHER MINERAL INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING OIL SHALE, WHICH, IN VIEW OF NEGATIVE OFFSHORE FINDINGS, MOROCCO CONSIDERS POTENTIAL ALTERNATE SOURCE OF ENERGY. POLAND HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ASSISTING MOROCCO IN THIS FIELD. LARAKI VISIT THUS CLEARLY SETS STAGE FOR CONTINUING REINFORCEMENT OF ECONOMIC TIES IN PARTICULAR.
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